THE LONE SAILOR

Those who have served in the U.S. Navy will immediately recognize the figure of the statue of "The Lone Sailor." There he stands, waiting on a dock for a boat to take him to his ship, waiting for a bus to take him to a train going home on leave. Or, possibly, waiting for a ride to a new duty station. Who knows?

He stands there in his blues. It is obviously cold as he has his peacoat on, the collar turned up against the wind and his hands thrust into his peacoat pockets. His seabag rests beside him and his white cap is set on his head in just such a manner so as to say, "Here is a salt, a 4.0 sailor who has been around awhile." He is gazing outward, perhaps to sea, perhaps for a last glimpse at the ship on which he has served until now. Who knows?

We do know that such a scene has been played out many times by many sailors over the years. The Lone Sailor represents all people who ever served, are serving now or who are yet to serve in the Navy. He is a composite of the U.S. Navy bluejacket, past, present and future.

The U.S. Navy Memorial was opened Oct. 13, 1987, in Washington, D.C. The memorial has been greatly expanded since that time and includes a broad granite plaza which forms the amphitheater. The statue of the Lone Sailor is the centerpiece of the plaza. The Memorial includes many other features, not the least of which is the Navy Log, where sailors past and present can provide information on their service and have it remain online and available for posterity.

Since its inception in 1987, the Lone Sailor statue has been replicated at several places in the U.S. The most recent was dedicated at Vista Point, overlooking the historic Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco in April 2002. An editorial writer noted that "the statue seems right at home here, where many a sailor paused amid damp fog to sense the last tug of land on his way to the sea."

Additional replicas of the statue are located, appropriately, at Norfolk, Va.; San Diego, Calif.; West Haven, Conn.; Kirkland, Wash. near Seattle; and Great Lakes, Ill. Those of us who have ever been stationed at Great Lakes NTS should readily be able to visualize the Lone Sailor waiting for a train to Chicago or Milwaukee just outside the Main Gate with the wind blowing up a cold gale in the wintertime.

Stanley Bleifeld, sculptor of the Lone Sailor, also sculpted another statue entitled "Homecoming." This statue depicts a sailor and his wife and child in a joyous reunion, and has been placed at many of the locations previously mentioned.

Wouldn't it be great if a replica of the Lone Sailor stood in front of the Union Station in Kansas City, where during World War II and Korea thousands of bluejackets passed on their way to or from their destiny?

CONGRATULATING NAGORNO
KARABAKH ON THEIR FREEDOM
MOVEMENT'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 3, 2003

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Nagorno Karabakh

on the 15th Anniversary of the Karabakh Freedom Movement. As many in this body know, February 20, 1988 is considered to be the beginning of the modem day national liberation movement of the people of Nagorno Karabakh. On that day, the Nagorno Karabakh legislature officially petitioned the Soviet government to reunite with Armenia. This sparked weeks of demonstrations by tens of thousands of people around Nagorno Karabakh to show their desire to live in freedom. This same commitment to liberty lay at the foundation of the American nation.

Today, Nagorno Karabakh clearly satisfies the international criteria for statehood with a democratically elected government, capable armed forces and an independent foreign policy. With such, they strongly contribute to peace and stability in the South Caucasus region—a goal the United States shares with them.

Over the past number of years, Congress has expressed its support for the Nagorno Karabakh—from the beginning of its struggle to shrug off Soviet totalitarianism to their fight against Azerbaijan's aggression to post-war rehabilitation assistance. I strongly believe this is the right path and will continue to do all I can to give critical assistance to Nagorno Karabakh. Again, I offer my congratulations to Nagorno Karabakh.

TRIBUTE TO ARIE WASHINGTON, SR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 3, 2003

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, in commemoration of Black History Month, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the many accomplishments of distinguished African Americans in Mississippi's Second Congressional District.

Today I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Arie Washington Sr. Mr. Washington is a veteran of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Mr. Washington has devoted 23 years of service to our county's military. His dedication to his service has not gone unnoticed, he has received several honors. Some of these honors include a Silver Star Medal, two Bronze Stars, four Army Commendation Medals, Purple Heart Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, American National Defense Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and a Presidential Unit Citation.

Upon retiring from the military, Mr. Washington taught JROTC for 14 years.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 2003 CON-GRESS—BUNDESTAG/BUNDESRAT EXCHANGE

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 3, 2003

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, since 1983, the U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag

and Bundesrat have conducted an annual exchange program for staff members from both countries. The program gives professional staff the opportunity to observe and learn about each other's political institutions and interact-on issues of mutual interest.

A staff delegation from the U.S. Congress will be selected to visit Germany during May 24 to June 7 of this year. During the 2-week exchange, the delegation will attend meetings with Bundestag/Bundesrat Members, Bundestag and Bundesrat party staff members, and representatives of numerous political, business, academic, and media agencies. Participants also will be hosted by a Bundestag Member during a district visit.

A comparable delegation of German staff members will visit the United States for 2-weeks in July. They will attend similar meetings here in Washington and visit the districts of congressional Members. The U.S. delegation is expected to facilitate these meetings.

The Congress—Bundestag/Bundesrat Exchange is highly regarded in Germany and the United States, and is one of several exchange programs sponsored by public and private institutions in the United States and Germany to foster better understanding of the politics and policies of both countries. This exchange is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The U.S. delegation should consist of experienced and accomplished Hill staff who can contribute to the success of the exchange on both sides of the Atlantic. The Bundestag reciprocates by sending senior staff professionals to the United States.

Applicants should have a demonstrable interest in events in Europe. Applicants need not be working in the field of foreign affairs, although such a background can be helpful. The composite U.S. delegation should exhibit a range of expertise in issues of mutual concern to Germany and the United States such as, but not limited to, trade, security, the environment, economic development, health care, and other social policy issues. This year's delegation should be familiar with transatlantic relations within the context of recent world events.

In addition, U.S. participants are expected to help plan and implement the program for the Bundestag/Bundesrat staff members when they visit the United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host one or two staffers in their Member's district in July, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants are selected by a committee composed of personnel from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State and past participants of the exchange.

Senators and Representatives who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a resume and cover letter in which they state their qualifications, the contributions they can make to a successful program and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated. Applications may be sent to Connie Veillette in Congressman REGULA's office, 2306 Rayburn House Building by noon on Monday, March 31, 2003.